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from Romanization, has so clarified it as to make codification appear needless, has received the adhesion of a whole generation of English scholars, and has finished its work in America, to be succeeded by the present conscious effort to adapt the law, thus explained, to actual life. Harrison could not see that it is neither the past nor the immediate present, but the future, which is the true object of study; and that while the present, an absolute factor, throws little light on impending changes, the tangential factors of the past alone can enable one to predict the changes of the future. The chief object of education must be, to enable one to live and work in the future with continually better adaptation to the new conditions. Education, therefore, must enable one not merely to fix the point of present attainment, but to plot the curve of progress.

And so, despite Harrison's philosophical belittling of the Historical Method, his book, now an historical document, really throws light on the future by way of the past.

J. H. BEALE.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION. By Chester C. Maxey. With an introduction by Charles A. Beard. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1919. pp. xxi, 203.

The title of this volume is apt to mislead the unwary. The book is not a study of county administration in general; it merely embodies the results of an inquiry made by the author into the county affairs of Delaware, a state which has only three counties in all. There are chapters on the existing county organization, on financial procedure, almshouses, highway administration, and so forth, with a statement of general conclusions at the end of the book.

Mr. Maxey's volume is the first of a series projected by the New York Bureau of Municipal Research with the particular object of releasing the study of actual government from "the bondage to legalistic tradition." Consequently it takes little account of laws, charters, or official reports, and devotes the bulk of its attention to data gathered from visits to county institutions and other "first-hand" information.

A study of this sort has its merits; also its limitations. Locally it may have considerable interest and value, but beyond the borders of Delaware it will not carry a great deal of enlightenment. We shall need a good many of these microscopic studies before we can safely generalize concerning the three thousand counties of the United States.

W. B. MUNRO.

PRINCIPES DE DROIT PUBLIC. By Maurice Hauriou. Second Edition. Paris: Sirey. 1916. pp. xxxii, 828.

This is a treatise on the theory of the state. For about a quarter of a century French universities have offered examinations in this subject to students seeking degrees in political science. This is one of the books resulting from this rather artificial demand. As it is not prepared for the purpose of teaching international law, constitutional law, or administrative law, or even for the purpose of describing the French governmental machinery, it might be supposed to contain little matter of interest to lawyers, either American or French. Yet this would be a wrong conclusion. The author, professor of administrative law and dean of the law faculty in the University of Toulouse, has not been able to dissociate himself wholly from the lawyer's point of view. The phraseology is, to be sure, metaphysical, and the thought carries one back to those schoolmen who in the Middle Ages ornamented theology. On almost every page one finds allusions to realism, nominalism, personification, individualism, subjective personality, objective individuality, and similar words and concepts.